

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1-20. (cancelled)

21. (new) A gun comprising:

a frame for supporting the gun;

a plurality of spherical projectiles;

a magazine comprising a connector selectively attaching the magazine to the frame and a projectile store comprising an interior cavity having a width in the lateral direction effective to stagger the plurality of spherical projectiles placed therein and a retainer preventing the release of the plurality of spherical projectiles when the magazine is unattached to the frame, the projectile store further comprising an impeller to urge projectiles out of the interior cavity, the retainer being secured to the impeller to automatically secure the impeller to the interior cavity to resist travel of the impeller within the interior cavity upon detaching the magazine from the frame;

a barrel secured to the frame; and

an action secured to the frame to control feeding of the plurality of spherical projectiles and propellant to the barrel.

22. (new) The gun of claim 21, wherein the projectile store further comprises an impeller release positioned to release the retainer and free the impeller with respect to the chute when the magazine is attached to the frame.

23. (new) The gun of claim 22, wherein:

the interior cavity defines longitudinal, lateral, and transverse directions substantially orthogonal to one another and has a proximal end spaced in the longitudinal direction from a distal end;

the interior cavity has an opening near the proximal end to release a projectile of the plurality of spherical projectiles from the projectile store; and

the impeller is shaped to travel within the interior cavity and comprises a driving surface and a biasing member urging the driving surface toward the proximate end.

24. (new) A gun comprising:

a frame for supporting the gun;

a plurality of spherical projectiles;

a magazine comprising a connector selectively attaching the magazine to the frame and a projectile store comprising an interior cavity having a width in the lateral direction effective to stagger the plurality of spherical projectiles placed therein and a retainer preventing the release of the plurality of spherical projectiles when the magazine is unattached to the frame, the magazine further comprising a propellant reservoir having a seal maintaining the reservoir sealed against the loss of propellant when the magazine is unattached to the frame;

a barrel secured to the frame; and

an action secured to the frame to control feeding of the plurality of spherical projectiles and propellant to the barrel.

25. (new) A gun comprising:

a frame;

a plurality of spherical projectiles;

a magazine selectively securing to the frame and comprising a projectile store and a quantity of propellant, the projectile store having an interior cavity containing the plurality of spherical projectiles and a retainer preventing the release of the plurality of spherical projectiles when the magazine is unattached to the frame, the projectile store further comprising an impeller to urge the plurality of spherical projectiles out of the interior cavity, the retainer being secured to the impeller to automatically secure the impeller to the interior cavity to resist travel of the impeller within the interior cavity upon detaching the magazine from the frame;

a barrel secured to the frame; and

an action secured to the frame to control feeding of the plurality of spherical projectiles and quantity of propellant to the barrel.

26. (new) The gun of claim 25, wherein the projectile store further comprises an impeller release positioned to release the retainer and free the impeller with respect to the chute when the magazine is attached to the frame.

27. (new) The gun of claim 26, wherein:

the interior cavity defines longitudinal, lateral, and transverse directions substantially orthogonal to one another and has a proximal end spaced in the longitudinal direction from a distal end;

the interior cavity has an opening near the proximal end to release a projectile of the plurality of spherical projectiles from the projectile store; and

the impeller is shaped to travel within the interior cavity and comprises a driving surface and a biasing member urging the driving surface toward the proximate end.

28. (new) A gun comprising:

a frame;

a plurality of spherical projectiles, each formed as a spherical shell filled with at least one of a liquid, gelatinous substance, and powder;

a magazine selectively securing to the frame and comprising a projectile store having an interior cavity containing the plurality of spherical projectiles, a retainer preventing the release of the plurality of spherical projectiles when the magazine is unattached to the frame, and a propellant reservoir containing propellant and having a seal maintaining the propellant reservoir sealed against the loss of propellant when the magazine is unattached to the frame;

a barrel secured to the frame; and

an action secured to the frame to control feeding of the plurality of spherical projectiles and propellant to the barrel.

29. (new) A gun comprising:

a frame for supporting the gun;

a plurality of spherical projectiles;

a magazine comprising a connector selectively attaching the magazine to the frame and a projectile store defining an interior cavity containing the plurality of spherical projectiles, the projectile store having an impeller to urge the plurality of spherical projectiles out of the interior cavity and a retainer selectively fixing the impeller to the interior cavity to hinder the impeller from urging projectiles out of the interior cavity, the retainer having a release disengaging the retainer and freeing the impeller with respect to the interior cavity when the magazine attaches to the frame;

a barrel secured to the frame; and

an action secured to the frame to control feeding of the selected projectiles and propellant to the barrel.

30. (new) The gun of claim 29, wherein the retainer comprises a catch secured to the impeller and at least one receiver secured to the interior cavity for engaging the catch to resist travel of the impeller within the interior cavity.

31. (new) The gun of claim 30, wherein the receiver comprises a groove formed in the interior cavity and wherein the catch comprises a tab secured to the impeller and sized to be selectively inserted into the groove.

32. (new) The gun of claim 31, wherein the tab is homogeneously formed as part of the impeller.

33. (new) The gun of claim 32, wherein the interior cavity has a width in the lateral direction effective to stagger the plurality of spherical projectiles of the placed therein.

34. (new) The gun of claim 33, wherein each projectile of the plurality of spherical projectiles comprises a thin flexible shell filled with at least one of a liquid, a gelatinous substance, and a powder.

35. (new) The gun of claim 34, wherein the magazine further comprises a propellant store comprising a propellant reservoir having a seal maintaining the reservoir sealed against the loss of propellant when the magazine is unattached to the frame.

36. A gun comprising:

a frame;

a barrel secured to the frame;

a magazine releaseably secured to the frame and comprising a chute, propellant reservoir, and reservoir valve, the chute containing a plurality of projectiles each formed as a spherical shell filled with one of a liquid, gelatinous substance, and powder, the reservoir valve resisting the release of a propellant contained within the propellant reservoir when the magazine is not secured to the frame;
an action controlling feeding of the plurality of projectiles and propellant into the barrel.

37. The gun of claim 36, wherein the propellant reservoir is a canister containing carbon dioxide compressed to a saturated liquid.

38. The gun of claim 37, wherein the frame includes a handle oriented generally perpendicularly with respect to the barrel.

39. The gun of claim 38, wherein the magazine slides inside the handle to secure to the frame.

40. The gun of claims 39, wherein the plurality of projectiles comprises a plurality of paintballs.

41. The gun of claim 36, wherein the magazine further comprises an impeller urging the plurality of projectiles from the chute, a retainer resisting release of the plurality of projectiles from the chute when the magazine is not secured to the frame, a release disengaging the retainer when the magazine is secured to the frame.